



# Best Management Practices for Woody Biomass Harvesting

Stakeholders Meeting



# What is Woody Biomass?

- "Woody biomass--small-diameter trees, branches, and the like (brush, tree tops)--is generated as a result of timber-related activities in forests..."
- Source: United States Government Accountability Office

# What is woody biomass harvesting?

- Biomass harvesting includes the process of removing woody biomass from forested sites
- It might include the utilization of tops, limbs, small diameter trees, down and dead woody material, and brush

■ Source: *Biomass Harvesting on Forest Management Sites in Minnesota*

# Background

- Forest Restoration Working Partnership Grant
- Partners
  - Top-of-the-Ozarks RC&D (grant administrator)
  - Big Springs RC&D
  - Bootheel RC&D
  - Eastern Ozarks Forestry Council (EOFC)
  - Missouri Department of Conservation



# Grant

- Two Objectives

- First

- Best management practices for Woody Biomass Harvesting

- Goal is to assure that biomass is utilized without environmental degradation.

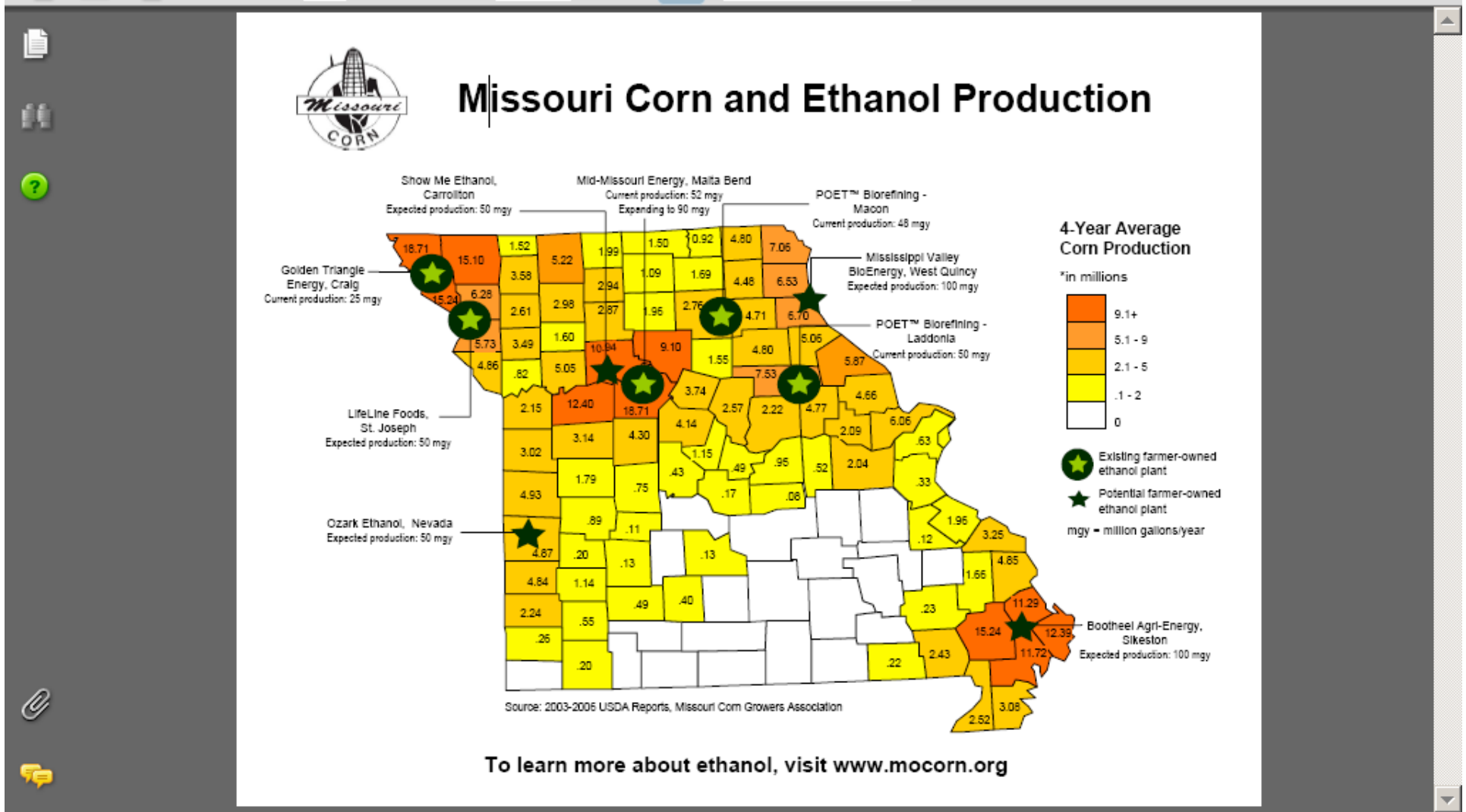
- Second

- Twofold feasibility study

- Identify and evaluate incentives to promote sustainable biomass harvesting.
      - Identify and evaluate options for monitoring biomass harvesting to ensure sustainability and acceptable environmental impact.

# Why write BMPs for Woody Biomass Harvesting?

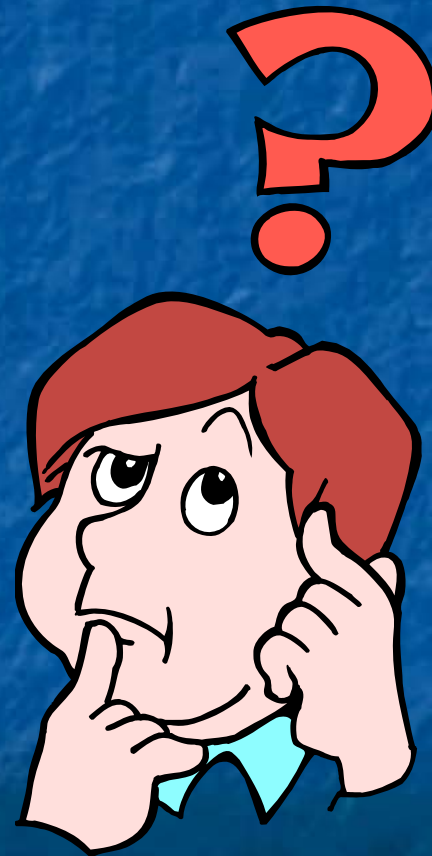
- Need to be proactive not reactive
- If harvesting occurs it needs to protect the resources
- Possible three cellulosic ethanol plants





# Process

- Stakeholders meeting
- Technical Group
- Web Site
- Comment period





# Technical Committee

- 15 Members
- Background in silviculture, wildlife biology, soils, forest ecology, and forest management.
- Meetings
  - First one November 26
  - Minutes posted on web site

# Web Page

- [http://mdc.mo.gov/forest/management/woody\\_bmp.htm](http://mdc.mo.gov/forest/management/woody_bmp.htm)
- Or <http://mdc.mo.gov/16130>
- Rough draft on web site
- My contact information is on web site
- Meeting Minutes
- Links



# Comment Period

- Rough draft on web site
- My contact information is on web site
  - [John.Tuttle@mdc.mo.gov](mailto:John.Tuttle@mdc.mo.gov)


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## Developing Best Management Practices

### Harvesting Woody Biomass

Given the recent boom in ethanol production, more and more woodlot owners are interested in producing ethanol from woody biomass. To help Missouri landowners, natural resource managers, loggers, equipment operators and contractors make informed and appropriate decisions about harvesting woody biomass, a group of partners received a grant to develop Best Management Practices (BMPs). This group will draft recommendations based on the best available scientific information about harvest effects on forestland sites and natural communities.

#### How will BMPs be developed?

A 15-member, interdisciplinary technical committee will draft BMPs for woody biomass harvesting based on the best scientific information available. The committee will give guidance based on issues generated from a diverse group of stakeholders, including environmental groups, landowners, government agencies and forest industry groups. The technical committee is made up of scientists from the following range of expertise: soil science, wildlife biology, hydrology, forest management, forest ecology and silviculture.

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# Stakeholders

- Why are you here?
  - Resource Sustainability
  - Wanted representatives from a cross section of diverse groups
  - Give input on the process
  - Be proactive not reactive